

PROGRAM facts

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY
NATIONAL ENERGY TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY



CONTACT POINTS

Joseph Strakey

Director, SCNG
412-386-6124
joseph.strakey@netl.doe.gov

Dale Schmidt

Deputy Director, SCNG
304-285-4359
dale.schmidt@netl.doe.gov

CUSTOMER SERVICE

800-553-7681

STRATEGIC CENTER FOR NATURAL GAS WEBSITE

www.netl.doe.gov/scng



Strategic Center for Natural Gas

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THE STRATEGIC CENTER FOR NATURAL GAS

*Integrating all Elements of DOE's Natural Gas
Technology Development from Borehole to Burner Tip*

The Strategic Center for Natural Gas (SCNG) is **strategic** in that we're looking at the big picture: planning for a future that allows the full potential of natural gas to be achieved.

The SCNG is a **center**, the focal point for DOE's natural gas technology program. As such, we are the one place anyone can come to for the most up-to-date information about natural gas research and development and analytical support for policy and regulation development.

The SCNG is a center for **natural gas** because natural gas will be the fuel of choice for the next 10 to 20 years. It is the most eco-friendly fossil fuel and will provide a smooth transition to our future energy economy.



Our Foundation

The National Energy Technology Laboratory has a 50-year history in natural gas exploration and production, processing, storage, and end use research. We have identified the importance of unconventional natural gas resources by developing techniques to produce natural gas from coalbeds, recognizing the importance of gas hydrates, and sponsoring the first horizontal gas well in the U.S. In the end use area, recent focus has been on developing advanced technologies for fuel cells and advanced turbines.

Our Approach

National Strategic Planning – Work with industry, other Department of Energy (DOE) offices, and other government agencies to craft a comprehensive, balanced portfolio of research and development activities.

Exploration and Production – Ensure that the technologies needed to economically find and produce future supplies of natural gas are developed.

Infrastructure – Foster the development and deployment of technologies that guarantee the reliability, flexibility, and safety of the nation's gas delivery and storage infrastructure as it adapts to future needs.

End Use Technologies and Markets – Develop competitive, energy efficient, cost-effective means of using natural gas in new and existing markets through cost-shared research and development.

PRODUCT AREA CONTACTS

GAS EXPLORATION, PRODUCTION, AND STORAGE

Brad Tomer

304-285-4692

brad.tomer@netl.doe.gov

INFRASTRUCTURE RELIABILITY

Rodney Anderson

304-285-4709

rodney.anderson@netl.doe.gov

HIGH EFFICIENCY ENGINES AND TURBINES

Richard Dennis

304-285-4515

richard.dennis@netl.doe.gov

FUEL CELLS

Mark Williams

304-285-4747

mark.williams@netl.doe.gov

ENERGY CONSERVATION

Eddie Christy

304-285-4604

c eddie.christy@netl.doe.gov

PROJECT CONTACTS

GAS SUPPLY PROJECT DIVISION

Chuck Zeh

304-285-4265

charles.zeh@netl.doe.gov

GAS POWER PROJECTS DIVISION

Bruce Utz

412-386-5706

bruce.utz@netl.doe.gov

COMBUSTION & ENGINES DYNAMICS DIVISION

Dan Maloney

304-285-4629

daniel.maloney@netl.doe.gov

Geo Richards

304-285-4458

george.richards@netl.doe.gov

THE STRATEGIC CENTER FOR NATURAL GAS

Our Approach (continued)

Policies and Regulations – Provide technical data and analytical tools for rational policy development.

Energy Conservation – Develop and apply innovative technologies and approaches that promote energy efficiency and sustainable development.

The demand for natural gas is growing. In 2020 the demand is projected to be almost 35 trillion cubic feet, or Tcf – 50 percent more than our current consumption.

This demand cannot be met without a concerted effort from industry, regulators, landowners and the research community, and the SCNG will engage these communities in this technology challenge.

Vision

By 2020, U.S. public will be enjoying the benefits from an increase in gas use:

Affordable Supply – To meet our future needs, new and additional resources of natural gas must be made available. Technology innovations will make these new resources affordable.

Reliable Delivery – As demand for natural gas rapidly increases, unprecedented growth in new pipelines, compressor stations, and storage systems will require innovative materials and construction technologies to ensure a reliable and safe infrastructure.

Environmental Protection – Increasing our use of clean-burning natural gas and employing state-of-the-art natural gas technologies will decrease energy-related pollution.

There is a recognized need for coordinated action:

The President's Committee of Advisors on Science and Technology recommended in 1995 that the Department of Energy develop a strategic research and development plan for natural gas.

The National Petroleum Council's December 1999 Natural Gas Report to the Secretary of Energy recommended that government and industry cooperatively establish a strategy for natural gas as part of the nation's energy portfolio.

The SCNG meets this need by providing a focal point within the Federal Government to coordinate research and development efforts and support policy development. We are ensuring that the United States' future requirements for natural gas will be met.

